



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER for PATENTS
P.O. Box 1430
Alexandria, Virginia 22312-1430
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/710,972	08/16/2004	Lynn Henry Wheeler	1039940260

24728
MORRIS MANNING & MARTIN LLP
1600 ATLANTA FINANCIAL CENTER
3343 PEACHTREE ROAD, NE
ATLANTA, GA 30326-1044

CONFIRMATION NO. 4971

FORMALITIES LETTER



Date Mailed: 11/15/2004

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

Items Required To Avoid Abandonment:

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- Additional claim fees of \$486 as a non-small entity, including any required multiple dependent claim fee, are required. Applicant must submit the additional claim fees or cancel the additional claims for which fees are due.

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:


Total additional fee(s) required for this application is \$486 for a Large Entity

- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is **\$486**
 - \$486 for 51 total claims over 20.

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

S/N: 10/710,972

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	WHEELER, et al.	Docket:	10399-40260
Serial No.:	10/710,972	Confirmation No.:	4971
Filed:	August 16, 2004	Group Art Unit:	2131
Title:	Account Authority Digital Signature (AADS) System Using Encoded Information	Examiner:	Unassigned

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to: Mail Stop MISSING PARTS; Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 15, 2005.

By: 
John R. Harris

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
FEB 15 2005

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS
OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION**

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application mailed November 15, 2004 (the "Notice"), Applicant responds as follows by submitting the following items:

1. Transmittal;
2. Response to Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application (this document);
3. Preliminary Amendment;
4. Request for One-Month Extension of Time,

Application No. 10/710,972

5. Part 2 Copy of the Notice to File Missing Parts of Non-provisional

Application; and

6. Return Postcard.

The Notice indicated that additional fees of \$486 for a large entity were required. The undersigned does not understand how the Office calculated that fee. The Summary of Fees due in the Notice indicated that there were 51 total claims over 20. That calculation is believed to be incorrect. The present application was submitted with 44 total claims, not 51 or 71 ("51 over 20"). The application as filed had 44 total claims, with 4 independent claims, and many multiple dependent claims.

As is known, the Office increased patent filing fees on December 8, 2004. The additional claims fees under the new fee schedule would have been substantially in excess of \$486.

Rather than determine the claims fees under the new filing fee schedule, the applicants have elected to cancel the multiple dependent claims for purposes of facilitating rapid prosecution of this application. All dependent claims are now basically dependent under claim 1. In the event that the examiner allows claim 1 and its associated dependencies, the applicant reserves the right to reintroduce the subject matter of the canceled dependent claims relative to the other independent claims.

With the cancellation of the multiple dependent claims, the applicants overpaid the filing fee. Applicants request that the overpayment be applied to payment of the fee for a one-month extension of time.

Please send any future correspondence to John R. Harris at the address associated with **Customer Number 24728.**

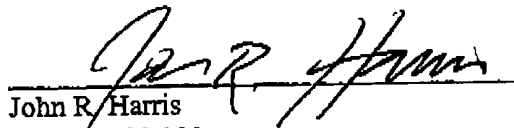
Application No. 10/710,972

Applicant believes that the submission of these papers complete the filing of all necessary papers and respectfully requests that the referenced application be passed along for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS, MANNING & MARTIN, LLP

February 15, 2005


John R. Harris
Reg. No. 30,388

MORRIS, MANNING & MARTIN, L.L.P.
1600 Atlanta Financial Center
3343 Peachtree Road, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30326
404-233-7000 Main
404-504-7720 Direct
Customer No. 24728

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☒ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER: _____**

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.